

Benefits from the U.S.-Korea Trade Agreement

Texas December 2010

The U.S.-Korea Trade Agreement (KORUS) Will Help Grow the U.S. Economy & Support U.S. Jobs

The impact of the eliminations of tariffs and related barriers is estimated to increase U.S. GDP by nearly \$12 billion and U.S. goods exports by nearly \$11 billion annually. Adding to this would be new exports of U.S. services, where U.S. firms exported \$12.6 billion to Korea in 2009. Together, these export opportunities support the President's National Export Initiative goal of doubling exports by 2015.

KORUS is Essential to Ensuring U.S. Competitiveness in Korea and Throughout Asia

Ten years ago, the United States was the top exporter to Korea providing one-fifth of all Korean imports; now we are in third place with less than 10% market share.

- U.S. exporters to Korea currently pay an average 6.2 percent tariff, or nearly \$1.3 billion a year, to Korea through tariffs on industrial goods.
- Korean exporters to the United States currently face an average 2.8 percent tariff.
- On the first day of the European Union (EU) Korea FTA, 85% of Korean tariffs on EU products will go to zero.
- Chinese products in Korea benefit from lower transportation and labor costs.

Implementing KORUS can help U.S. businesses and their workers stem this downward slide by making U.S. products more competitive in the Korean market.

- Tariff elimination for over 95 percent of U.S. exports of consumer and industrial products within five years.
- Tariff elimination for nearly two-thirds of U.S. agricultural exports immediately on entry into force.
- Significant new market access for U.S. service suppliers.
- Extensive elimination of non-tariff barriers, including in the autos sector.
- Tariff eliminations and strong transparency obligations will facilitate SME exports.

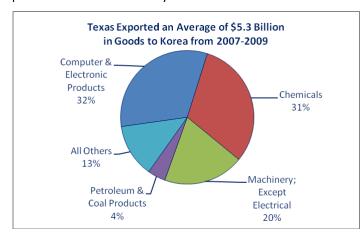
Texas Depends on World Markets

Texas' export shipments of merchandise in 2009 totaled \$163 billion, the largest figure among the 50 states. Texas' exports rose \$33.7 billion from 2005 to 2009, the largest dollar gain among the states.

- Exports of manufactured goods support an estimated 732,000 jobs in Texas. (2008 data are the latest available.)
- More than one-fourth of all manufacturing workers in Texas depend on exports for their jobs.
- A total of 26,265 companies exported goods from Texas locations in 2008.
- 24,294 of Texas exporting firms were small and mediumsized enterprises (SMEs), with fewer than 500 employees, the fourth highest number among the 50 states.
- SMEs generated one-third of Texas' total exports of merchandise in 2008.

Trade Works for Texas

Recently implemented trade agreements have benefited Texas. For example, since the U.S.-Chile trade agreement entry into force in 2004, Texas' exports to Chile have grown by 461 percent. Texas' exports to Singapore have increased 124 percent since the U.S.-Singapore trade agreement took effect in 2004. In the first five years (2005-2009) of the U.S.-Australia trade agreement, Texas' exports to Australia increased 66 percent. KORUS can similarly benefit Texas.



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration

KORUS Opens New Markets for Key Texas Exports

Computers and Electronics Products – Computers and electronics products accounted for \$1.7 billion of Texas' merchandise exports to Korea on average from 2007 to 2009. Top U.S. exports in this sector included digital integrated circuitry, semiconductors, semiconductor manufacturing equipment, telecommunications equipment, radio and television parts, static converters, and magnetic tape. Korean tariffs range between zero and 13 percent. KORUS improves market access for computers and electronics products. With the immediate removal of many of these tariffs, U.S. exports will become much more competitive and affordable to Koreans.

Chemicals Manufactures – Chemicals manufactures accounted for \$1.7 billion of Texas' merchandise exports to Korea on average from 2007 to 2009. U.S. exporters of chemicals and related products, including pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, fertilizers, inorganic chemicals, organic chemicals, plastics, and agro-chemicals, will benefit from KORUS tariff reductions. Fiftyone percent of U.S. chemicals exports by value will receive duty-free treatment immediately upon entry into force of the agreement, with the remaining tariffs phased out within 10 years. Tariffs on high-trade U.S. products such as silicon and certain plastics articles will be eliminated immediately upon implementation of the Agreement. Current Korean chemicals tariffs average 6 percent and can be as high as 50 percent.

Machinery Manufactures - Texas' exports of machinery will benefit from KORUS tariff reductions. Machinery manufactures accounted for \$1.0 billion of Texas' merchandise exports to Korea on average from 2007 to 2009. Many machinery manufactures will receive duty-free treatment immediately upon entry into force of the agreement, including products such as refrigeration compressors, valves, renewable energy equipment, air pollution control equipment (pumps), water filtering and purifying equipment, and piston engines and engine parts. One hundred percent of agricultural and construction equipment, including tractors, lawn mowers, straw balers, conveyors, loaders, bulldozers, mechanical shovels, boring and sinking machinery, derricks, and dumpers, will continue to receive duty-free treatment. The elimination of Korean tariffs on U.S. machinery manufactures will provide a competitive boost to U.S. exporters, who will no longer face tariffs as high as 13 percent.

KORUS Creates Opportunities for Texas' Agriculture

Texas' agricultural exports to all countries, estimated at \$4.7 billion in 2009, supported about 38,000 jobs, both on and off the farm. These export sales make an important contribution to Texas' farm economy, which had total cash receipts of \$16.6 billion in 2009. KORUS eliminates tariffs and other barriers on most agricultural products, increasing export opportunities for a range of Texas products, including beef, poultry, and dairy. With immediate elimination of duties on nearly two-thirds of U.S. agricultural exports to Korea, KORUS gives U.S. exporters improved access to the Korean market for many of the products that have been highly protected.

For more information on agricultural exports and KORUS, see the fact sheets posted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture at: http://www.fas.usda.gov/itp/us-koreata.asp

All state export data in this report are based on the Origin of Movement (OM) series. This series allocates exports to state based on transportation origin, i.e., the state from which goods began their journey to the port (or other point) of exit from the United States. The transportation origin of exports is not always the same as the location where the goods were produced. Thus conclusions about "export production" in a state should not be made solely on the basis of the OM state export figures.

Sources: Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, Origin of Movement Series; U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Prepared by the U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration.